

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) In a programmable electronic digital computer, a system comprising:

status monitoring code configured to generate status signals representing a status of a user initiated computer related process;

an audio signal generator configured to receive the status signals and to generate, in response thereto, audio signals representing the status of the process, including means to produce intermittent audio signals ~~having varying~~ with different lengths of time between the audio signals, said ~~varying different~~ lengths of time between the audio signals representing different percentages of completion of the process; and

a speaker to receive the audio signals and to produce therefrom discontinuous sounds representing the percentage of completion of the process;

wherein the computer is provided with an operating system, and the audio signal generator is included in the operating system.

2. (Currently Amended) A computer according to Claim 1, wherein the process has a completed state, in which a defined set of conditions is met, and the process has a frozen state, in which the process has stopped operating before reaching the completed state, and wherein:

the audio signal generator (i) generates a first ~~type of~~ audio signal when the process is operating, and (ii) generates a second ~~type of~~ audio signal, different from said first ~~type of~~ audio signal, when the process is in the frozen state; and

the speaker receives the first and second ~~types of~~ audio signals and, in response, produces a first audio sound when the process is operating to indicate to the user that said process is operating, and produces a second different types of sounds, respectively, audio sound, different than said first audio sound, when the process is in said frozen state to help a indicate to the user determine in which of said states the process is in that said process is in said frozen state.

Claim 3 and 4 (Cancelled).

5. (Original) A computer according to Claim 1, wherein said sounds include at least one word representing the status of the process.

6. (Currently Amended) A method of providing an audible ~~sound~~ sounds to indicate the state of a computer related process, comprising:

initiating a computer related process;

said process generating status signals representing a status of said process;

using the status signals to produce audible sounds representing the status of the process, including the step of producing discontinuous sounds ~~having varying~~ with different lengths of time between the sounds, said ~~varying~~ different lengths of time representing different percentages of completion of the process;

providing an audio signal generator function to receive the status signals and to generate, in response thereto, audio signals representing the status of the process, and wherein the computer includes an operating system, and the audio signal generator function is included in the operating system; and

wherein the process has a completed state, in which a defined set of conditions is met, and a frozen state, in which the process has stopped operating before reaching the completed state; and the step of using the status signals includes the step of using the status signals to produce a first and second types of sounds representing audio sound when the process is ~~in the completed state~~ operating to indicate to the user that the process is operating, and a second audio sound, different then the first audio sound, when the process as in the frozen state, respectively to indicate to the user that the process is in the frozen state.

Claims 7-10 (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for providing an audible ~~sound~~ sounds to indicate the state of a computer related process, said method steps comprising:

receiving status signals representing a status of said process; and

using the status signals to produce audible sounds representing the status of the process, including the step of producing discontinuous sounds ~~having-varying~~ with different lengths of time between the sounds, said ~~varying~~ different lengths of time representing different percentages of completion of the process; and

providing an audio signal generator function to receive the status signals and to generate, in response thereto, audio signals representing the status of the process, wherein said audio signal generator function is included in a computer operating system.

12. (Currently Amended) A program storage device according to Claim 11, wherein the process has a completed state, in which a defined set of conditions is met, and a frozen state, in which the process has stopped operating before reaching the completed state; and wherein

the step of using the status signals includes the step of using the status signals to produce first and second types of ~~sounds-representing~~ audio sound when the process is in the completed state to indicate to the user that the process is in the completed state, and a second audio sound,

different then the first audio sound, when the process is in the frozen state, respectively to indicate to the user that the process is in the frozen state.

13. (Original) A program storage device according to Claim 11, wherein said method further comprises the step of generating, in response to the received status signals, audio signals representing the status of the process.

Claim 14 (Cancelled).

15. (Original) A program storage device according to Claim 11, wherein said sounds include at least one word representing the status of the process.

Claim 16 (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 11, wherein said process is a compiling code.